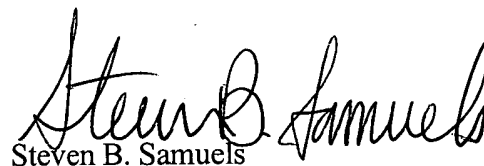


REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to include information concerning the claim of priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/254,837. Further, Applicants have amended claims 6, 7, 18, and 19 and have added new claims 48 - 52. Support for new claims 48 - 52 is provided at page 11, lines 1-6 and elsewhere in the specification. No new matter has been added. The claims have been amended, and new claims added, in order to more fully claim the breadth and scope of the subject matter that Applicants believe to be their invention and which they desire to claim, and are not made to overcome any prior art.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 6, 7, 18, and 19 have been amended as follows:

6. (Amended) The multiple processor computer system of claim 5 wherein the queue comprises a plurality of entries, each entry comprising a first data field for containing a processor identification, a second data field for containing a lock request time, and a third data field for containing a priority of a [task requesting] request for a lock.

7. (Amended) The multiple processor computer system of claim 6 wherein each request for a lock on the shared resource has a corresponding entry in the queue, and wherein the crossbar structure [queue] determines which [processor] request is granted [a] the lock based [on the lock request time and] at least in part upon the respective priorities contained in the third data fields of the queue entries for each request [the priority of the task requesting the lock].

18. (Amended) The crossbar structure of claim 17 wherein the queue comprises a plurality of entries, each entry comprising a first data field for containing a processor identification, a second data field for containing a lock request time, and a third data field for containing a priority of a [task requesting] request for a lock.

19. (Amended) The crossbar structure of claim 18 wherein each request for a lock on the shared resource has a corresponding entry in the queue, and wherein the crossbar structure [queue] determines which [processor] request is granted [a] the lock based [on the lock request time and] at least in part upon the respective priorities contained in the third data fields of the queue entries for each request [the priority of the task requesting the lock].